

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
collecting, on a computer maintained within a vehicle, data from a plurality
of systems of the vehicle, wherein the plurality of systems:
include a diagnostics system providing one or more diagnostic
codes; and
each is connected to the computer by a respective interface; and
generating, on the computer, an explanation of a vehicle condition based on
at least one said vehicle diagnostics code comprising a set of symbols, wherein the
explanation combines data collected from the diagnostic system with data
collected from at least one other system.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the generating operation comprises retrieving a textual explanation of the vehicle diagnostics code.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the generating operation comprises retrieving a graphical illustration of a component associated with the vehicle diagnostics code.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising generating supplemental information related to the vehicle diagnostics code.

1 5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4 wherein the generating
2 supplemental information operation comprises retrieving an estimated price for
3 repairing a condition related to the vehicle diagnostics code.

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5 6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4 wherein the generating
6 supplemental information operation comprises retrieving a location of a vehicle
7 dealership.

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9 7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising
10 presenting the explanation at a client computer.

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12 8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 wherein the presenting
13 operation comprises presenting the explanation at a local, vehicle-based client.

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15 9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 wherein the presenting
16 operation comprises presenting the explanation at a remote client.

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18 10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising storing
19 an updated explanation of the vehicle condition in a memory.

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21 11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising
22 transmitting the vehicle diagnostics code to a remote computer.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored
2 thereon a computer program having executable instructions for performing a
3 process comprising:

4 collecting, on a computer maintained within a vehicle, data from a plurality
5 of systems of the vehicle; wherein the plurality of systems includes:

6 a diagnostics system providing one or more diagnostic codes; and

7 a global positioning satellite (GPS) system providing vehicle
8 location data; and

9 generating a deciphered explanation of at least one said vehicle diagnostics
10 code, wherein the explanation combines data collected from the diagnostics
11 system with vehicle location data collected from the GPS system.

12
13 13. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12
14 wherein the generating operation comprises generating a textual explanation of the
15 vehicle diagnostics code.

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17 14. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12
18 wherein the generating operation comprises generating a graphical illustration of a
19 component associated with the vehicle diagnostics code.

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21 15. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12, the
22 process further comprising generating supplemental information related to the
23 vehicle diagnostics code.

1 16. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15
2 wherein the generating supplemental information operation comprises generating
3 an estimated price for repairing a condition related to the vehicle diagnostics code.
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5 17. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15
6 wherein the generating supplemental information operation comprises generating a
7 location of a vehicle dealership.
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9 18. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12, the
10 process further comprising presenting the deciphered explanation at a client
11 computer.
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13 19. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18
14 wherein the presenting operation comprises presenting the deciphered explanation
15 at a local, vehicle-based client
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17 20. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18
18 wherein the presenting operation comprises presenting the deciphered explanation
19 at a remote client.
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21 21. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12, the
22 process further comprising updating the deciphered explanation of the vehicle
23 diagnostics code.
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1 22. (Original) A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12, the
2 process further comprising:

3 transmitting the vehicle diagnostics code to a remote computer;

4 looking up the deciphered explanation in an explanations store in operable
5 communication with the remote computer, the explanations store having one or
6 more explanations associated with one or more associated diagnostics codes.

1 23. (Currently Amended) A vehicle comprising:
2 a vehicle diagnostic system;
3 one or more other vehicle systems; and
4 a computer communicatively coupled to the vehicle diagnostic system and
5 the one or more other systems via respective interfaces, wherein the computer is
6 configured to:
7 collect data from a plurality of said vehicle systems; and
8 generate generating a deciphered explanation of a vehicle
9 diagnostics code.

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11 24. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23, wherein the deciphered
12 explanation comprises a textual explanation of the vehicle diagnostics code.

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14 25. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23, wherein the deciphered
15 explanation comprises a graphical illustration of a component associated with the
16 vehicle diagnostics code.

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18 26. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23, wherein the computer is
19 further operable to generate supplemental information related to the vehicle
20 diagnostics code.

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22 27. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 26, wherein the supplemental
23 information comprises an estimated price for repairing a condition related to the
24 vehicle diagnostics code.
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1 28. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 26 wherein the supplemental
2 information comprises a location of a vehicle dealership.

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4 29. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23 further comprising a
5 display device presenting the deciphered explanation.

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7 30. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23, further comprising an
8 audio output device presenting an audio version of the deciphered explanation.

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10 31. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 29, wherein the computer
11 transmits the deciphered explanation to a remote client computer for presentation
12 at the remote client.

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14 32. (Original) A vehicle as recited in claim 23, wherein the computer
15 comprises an updateable repository of one or more deciphered explanations
16 associated with one or more vehicle diagnostics codes.

1 33. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-based system comprising:
2 a diagnostics receiver module receiving a vehicle diagnostics code from a
3 vehicle diagnostics system, the vehicle diagnostics code including a set of one or
4 more symbols and corresponding to a vehicle condition;
5 one or more interfaces corresponding to one or more other vehicle systems
6 and configured to receive vehicle systems data from a respective vehicle system;
7 and
8 means for generating an explanation of the vehicle condition based on the
9 vehicle diagnostics code, wherein the explanation combines data received from the
10 vehicle diagnostics system and at least one said other vehicle system.

11
12 34. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 33 wherein the
13 means for generating comprises a computer-readable memory storing a
14 diagnostics information registry having a field storing a reference to the
15 explanation.

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17 35. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 33 wherein the
18 means for generating comprises a memory storing explanations of one or more
19 predetermined vehicle diagnostics codes.

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21 36. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 35 wherein the
22 memory stores one or more of a graphical explanation, a textual explanation, and
23 an audio explanation.

1 37. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 33 further
2 comprising a network communications module communicating the explanation
3 over a network.

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5 38. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 33 further
6 comprising a media output device presenting the explanation.

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8 39. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 38 wherein the
9 media output device comprises audio speakers outputting an audio explanation.

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11 40. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 34 further
12 comprising an update module updating information in the diagnostics information
13 registry.

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15 41. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 34 wherein the
16 diagnostics information registry comprises:

17 a severity field storing a severity level associated with the vehicle
18 condition;

19 a component field storing a component identifier associated with the
20 vehicle condition;

21 a type field storing a diagnostics code type associated with the vehicle
22 diagnostics code;

23 an automatic field storing an indicator indicating whether to automatically
24 present the explanation;

1 an graphics field storing an indicator indicating whether to present graphics
2 data included in the explanation.
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4 42. (Original) A vehicle-based system as recited in claim 33 wherein the
5 vehicle diagnostics code is an onboard diagnostics II (OBDII) code.
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1 43. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
2 receiving, on a vehicle based computer, a vehicle diagnostics code from a
3 vehicle diagnostics system, the vehicle diagnostics code including a set of one or
4 more symbols and corresponding to a vehicle condition;
5 receiving vehicle systems data from one or more other vehicle systems; and
6 retrieving an explanation of the vehicle condition based on the vehicle
7 diagnostics code; wherein the explanation combines data from the vehicle
8 diagnostics system and at least one said other vehicle system.
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10 44. (Original) A method as recited in claim 43 wherein the retrieving
11 operation comprises accessing a memory location storing an updateable
12 explanation.
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14 45. (Original) A method as recited in claim 44 further comprising
15 updating the explanation.
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17 46. (Original) A method as recited in claim 43 further comprising
18 presenting the explanation automatically in response to receiving the vehicle
19 diagnostics code.
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21 47. (Original) A method as recited in claim 43 further comprising
22 presenting the explanation in response to a request from a user.
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24 48. (Original) A method as recited in claim 43 further comprising
25 communicating the explanation over a network.